

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (amended): A compound of claim 46, wherein:

R is hydrogen, halogen, lower alkoxy, alkynyl or substituted alkynyl; and

R₃ is one of ~~C(O)-CH₂-Y-G~~, ~~C(O)-CH₂-O-D~~, ~~C(O)-CH₂-O-E~~ or ~~C(O)-CH₂-Y'-Z-~~

G.

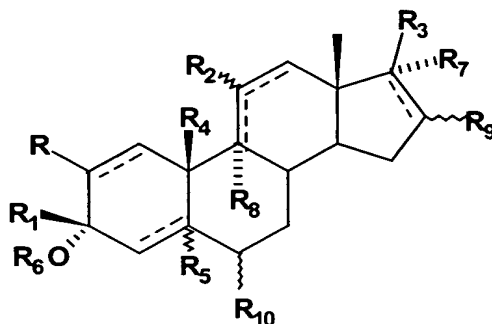
Claim 26 (amended): A compound of claim 25, wherein R₃ is ~~one of C(O)-CH₂-Y-~~

~~G~~, ~~C(O)-CH₂-O-D~~ or ~~C(O)-CH₂-O-E~~.

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Claim 27 (previously amended): A compound selected from the group consisting of ~~3 α -hydroxy-2 β -propoxy-21-(pyrid-4-ylthio)-5 α -pregnan-20-one N-methyl iodide; 3 α -hydroxy-21-(pyrid-4-ylthio)-5 α -pregnan-20-one N-methyl iodide; 3 α -hydroxy-21-(pyrid-4-yl)thio-5 β -pregnan-20-one N-methyl iodide; 3 α -hydroxy-3 β -methoxymethyl-21-(pyrid-4-ylthio)-5 α -pregnan-20-one; 3 β -(4'-acetylphenyl)ethynyl-3 α -hydroxy-21-(pyrid-4-ylthio)-5 β -pregnan-20-one; 3 α -hydroxy-3 β -methyl-21-(quinolin-6-yloxy)-5 α -pregnan-20-one N-methyl iodide; and 3 α -hydroxy-3 β -methyl-21-(quinolin-6-yloxy)-5 α -pregnan-20-one.~~

Claim 28-45 (canceled)

Claim 46 (previously amended): A compound of the formula:



or a physiologically acceptable salt or 3-ester thereof; wherein

R is one of hydrogen, amino, thio, sulfinyl, sulfonyl, halogen, lower alkoxy, alkynyl or substituted alkynyl;

R₁ is one of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, haloalkyl, dihaloalkyl, trihaloalkyl, optionally substituted aralkynyl, alkoxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, cyano, cyanoalkyl, thiocynoalkyl, azidoalkyl, optionally substituted arylalkyl, arylalkenyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aralkylalkynyl, alkanoyloxyalkynyl, optionally substituted heteroaryloxyalkynyl, oxoalkynyl or a ketal thereof, cyanoalkynyl, optionally substituted heteroarylalkynyl, hydroxyalkynyl, alkoxyalkynyl, aminoalkynyl, acylaminoalkynyl, mercaptoalkynyl, hydroxyalkynyl dioic acid hemi-ester or a salt thereof, or alkynyloxyalkynyl;

R₂ is one of hydrogen, alkoxy, a keto group or a dimethylamino group;

R₃ is one of $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-\text{Y}-\text{G}$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-\text{D}$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-\text{Z}-\text{G}$, or $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-\text{Y}'-\text{Z}-\text{G}$;

Y is one of S, SO or SO₂;

Y' is one of O, S, SO or SO₂;

Z is one of alkylene, alkenylene or alkynylene;

G is one of C-attached heteroaryl, or a quaternary ammonium salt ~~or N-oxide~~ of a nitrogen containing heteroaryl group;

D is C-attached heteroaryl, or a quaternary ammonium salt ~~or N-oxide~~ of a nitrogen containing heteroaryl group;

R₄ is one of hydrogen or methyl;

R₅, R₆, R₇, R₈, R₉ and R₁₀ are each hydrogen; and

the dotted lines all represent single bonds; with the following provisos:

when R₃ is ~~C(O)-CH₂-Y-G~~, and G is C-attached pyridyl then R₁ is other than hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl; and

when R₃ is -C(O)-CH₂-Z-G, then R₁ is other than hydrogen;

wherein said C-attached heteroaryl is selected from the group consisting of pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, quinolinyl, indolyl, benzimidazolyl, and isoquinolinyl.

Claim 47-54 (canceled)

Claim 55 (previously added): A compound of claim 46, wherein R is hydrogen, halogen, lower alkoxy, or alkynyl optionally substituted by lower acyclic alkyl, lower cyclic alkyl, carboaryl, heteroaryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, halo, haloalkyl, amino, mercapto, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, nitro, alkanoyl, alkanoyloxy, alkanoyloxyalkanoyl, alkoxycarboxy, formyl, carboxy, hydroxy, cyano, azido, keto, alkanoylamido, heteroaryloxy, heterocarbocycloxy, -CONR^kR¹, where R^k and R¹ are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl, -COOR^j, wherein R^j is lower alkyl, or combinations thereof.

Claim 56 (canceled)

Claim 57 (previously added): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 46, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 58 (canceled)

Claim 59 (previously added): A pharmaceutical compound comprising a compound of claim 27 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 60 (canceled)

Claim 61 (canceled)

Claim 62 (canceled)

Claim 63 (canceled)

Claim 64 (canceled)

Claim 65 (canceled)

X Claims 66 (withdrawn): The compound of claim 46, wherein R_3 is $-C(O)-CH_2-Z-G$,
and G is ~~C attached heteroaryl or a quaternary ammonium salt of a nitrogen containing~~
~~heteroaryl group.~~

Claim 67 (canceled)

Claim 68 (canceled)

Claim 69 (previously added): The compound of claim 46, wherein R_3 is $-C(O)-CH_2-$
O-D.

+ Claims 70 (withdrawn): The compound of claim 46, wherein R_3 is $-C(O)-CH_2-Z-G$.

Claim 71 (withdrawn): The compound of claim 46, wherein R_3 is $-C(O)-CH_2-Y'-Z-$
G.

Claim 72 (canceled)

Claim 73 (canceled)

Claim 74 (canceled)

Claim 75 (canceled)

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